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PRIORITY

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SUBJ: EVALUATION OF BLACK SHIELD, MISSION BX6740

1. CAMERA TYPE I (115-A) UNIT E WAS USED ON MISSION BX6740 FLOWN 16 DECEMBER 1967. THE MISSION WAS PROCESSED IN THE FIELD AND CONTAINS 1364 TITLED FRAMES.

2. BOTH CAMERAS OPERATED SATISFACTORILY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. DURING LEVEL PORTIONS OF FLIGHT WITH THE CAMERAS UNCAGED, ESTIMATED GROUND RESOLUTIONS OF [REDACTED] (BAR PLUS SPACE) WERE ACHIEVED ON BOTH FORWARD AND AFT CAMERA RECORDS, AT OR NEAR VERTICAL.

3. EXPOSURE WAS ADEQUATE THROUGHOUT THE MISSION WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FORWARD FRAMES 615-679 WHICH ARE UNDEREXPOSED. THE PROCESSING WAS SATISFACTORY.

4. THE FORWARD FRAMES INDICATE A SCAN FROM PLUS 64 DEGREES TO MINUS 21 DEGREES, WHICH IS 2-3 DEGREES SHORT THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. THE LENGTH OF THE AFT FRAMES IS SATISFACTORY. A MINUS DENSITY STREAK IS PRESENT ON FORWARD FRAMES, 1.4 INCHES FROM THE DATA BLOCK EDGE. A SECOND MINUS DENSITY STREAK IS PRESENT ON FORWARD FRAMES, 2.0 INCHES FROM THE DATA BLOCK EDGE. A MINUS DENSITY STREAK 1.25 INCHES FROM THE TITLED EDGE IS PRESENT ON ALL AFT FRAMES. A ROW OF MINUS DENSITY DOTS, 2.6 INCHES APART, IS PRESENT ON AFT FRAMES, 1.3 INCHES FROM THE TITLED EDGE. THE SPACE IN THE TIMING MARKS SIGNIFYING ZERO SCAN ON THE TITLED EDGE OF FRAME 357 IS 2.4 INCHES LONG. THE NORMAL SPACING IS APPROXIMATELY 0.5 INCH. SUCCESSIVE FORWARD/AFT FRAMES OVERLAP APPROXIMATELY 0.25 INCH INTERMITTENTLY AFTER FRAME 721. FOR EXAMPLE, SEE FRAMES 721/724, 723/726, 725/728, 773/776, AND 809/812. INK OR GREASE STAINS THAT RESEMBLE FINGER PRINTS ARE PRESENT IN FRAME 306. THE CAN LABELED "POSTFLIGHT" IS ACTUALLY PREFLIGHT MATERIAL.

5. BOTH SENSED AND CLOUD V/H WERE USED ON THIS MISSION. THE IMAGERY IN BOTH CASES IS SATISFACTORY.

6. THERE IS A NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE IN DENSITY BETWEEN THE FIELD AND ZI PRODUCED DUPLICATE POSITIVES ON THIS MISSION. THE DENSITY OF THE ZI GENERATED DP'S IS THIN. HIGHLIGHT DETAIL PRESENT IN THE ORIGINAL NEGATIVE AND ON THE FIELD DP'S IS LIGHT TO WASHED OUT ON THE ZI PRODUCED COPIES. THE FIELD COPIES ARE OF SATISFACTORY QUALITY.

7. THE CORRELATION OF THE INS TAPE, FILM DATA BLOCK, AND IMAGERY IS SATISFACTORY.

8. CLOUDS OBSCURE APPROXIMATELY 35 PERCENT OF THE MISSION.

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END OF MESSAGE

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification